

May 23, 2014



**Michelle Obama
at the Turnaround
Arts Event**



Sue Mackert (right) led a Minnesota delegation of educators to the White House Tuesday to participate in a Turnaround Arts event hosted by Michelle Obama and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

Perpich will lead federal Turnaround Arts school initiative in Minnesota

The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities has announced that Perpich Center for Arts Education has been selected to direct the Minnesota program of the national arts education initiative, Turnaround Arts, to help improve school performance.

The Turnaround Arts initiative is a public-private partnership designed to narrow the achievement gap and improve student engagement through the arts. The program, involving four schools in both urban and rural settings, will be funded through monies from the state legislature and the Minnesota State Arts Board along with community support. Read the full release at perpich.mn.gov

Numerous media outlets provided coverage of the announcement:

startribune.com

northlandsnewscenter.com

goldenvally.patch.com

woodbury.patch.com



'Beneath the Surface' brings Anishinaabe and Dakota knowledge to students

A collaborative project between Perpich Outreach and ArtStart, a St. Paul arts organization, is blossoming and spreading. Four laboratory school sites have or will be participating in a year-long program funded by the Minnesota State Arts Board, along with resources developed in Arts and Cultural Context, a Perpich pilot program focused on multicultural arts.

A two-day seminar in April provided 55 Edina High School students with hands-on learning in literature, art, language, ecology and history at Fort Snelling State Park. Other schools are just beginning their residencies. This will all culminate in a four-day summer institute at Fort Snelling State Park in July. Artists leading the sessions are Julie Kastigar Boada, Anishinaabe visual artist, Gwen Westerman, Dakota poet, and Glenn Wasicuna, Dakota linguist. You can read more at current.mnsun.com



Time for summer workshops!

Perpich Outreach is busy organizing summer workshops for teachers, teaching artists and other adult learners. To see the workshops currently scheduled and available for enrollment, please go to the [perpich calendar](#).

One upcoming workshop of note is on June 18, "Tools for Creative Research," led by Liz Lerman. As the originator of numerous tools and methods including the Critical Response Process feedback system, Lerman continues to develop and harvest artistic "tools" that have applicability to a wide range of endeavors. She returns to Minneapolis to share new takes on practical methods for generating, deepening and enlarging one's work, whether that's art-making, teaching, facilitating, directing or writing. Find out more at perpich.mn.gov

College Board visits Perpich

Two visitors from the College Board, John Williamson, executive director of AP Curriculum and Content, and Rachel Bettley, who works with Williamson on curriculum development, toured Perpich in mid-May and consulted with faculty on development of the AP Capstone Performance Course.



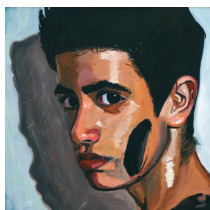
Perpich alumnus wins spot with internationally known dance company

Davente Gilreath ('10, dance) has accepted an invitation to join the Garth Fagan Dance Company. Gilreath will graduate from the University of Minnesota dance program this spring. As part of the Fagan company, Gilreath will perform nationally and internationally. Fagan's company is one of the premier African American dance companies in the U.S. Fagan is a Tony Award-winning choreographer for the stage version of "Lion King" and recently received a Living Legend award. Congratulations to Davente!



Perpich visual arts alum + Lady Gaga = Wow!

Big news for all of Lady Gaga's Little Monsters: Joshua Homic's ('12, visual) fashions, which recently won him the title of "Best Designer" at the FIT/Parsons Fusion Fashion challenge in New York, have been worn by none other than the lady herself. Check it out: gagafashionland.com



Visual arts senior is top high school artist in Minnesota

Tom McCallie, is the only high school student in Minnesota to win two national awards in the Scholastic Arts & Writing Awards. Tom received both a Gold Key and a Silver Key in the national-level competition. He received two Gold Keys in the Minnesota level of the Scholastic Awards. The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers partners with more than 100 visual and literary arts organizations across the country to bring the awards to local communities. A story about his work can be found at sunthisweek.com.

Healing with art

Rose Johnson ('03, visual) has done many different things since graduation such as working at a bindery and a casino. She is now running art groups for women and men who been affected by sexual and domestic violence at Hope Center in Faribault. Johnson says, "When I went to school at Perpich I learned how healing art can be. In my groups every medium is encouraged...we have done projects like papier-mâché masks, jewelry making, crocheting, knitting and origami." She sells her own art in Chicago and Minneapolis and is collaborating with a writer on a children's book. "I love this school," Johnson says of Perpich. "Love what it taught me because I feel like I can now show people why art can save the world." Thanks, Rose!



Perpich students' work featured through Congressional Arts Competition

Congressman Keith Ellison hosted the 2014 Congressional Arts Competition reception April 23, featuring former Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak. Perpich Arts High School was represented with works exhibited by four media arts students. Sophia Deutsch, Rebecca Silberfarb, Delaney Sharratt and Jazmyne LeBeau's work were on display as part of the Congressional Arts Competition for the month of April at the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach Center in Minneapolis.

Altogether, 14 media and visual art students sent work to seven of the eight regional congressional art competitions this spring. Julia Franchevich, visual arts senior, was awarded second place in Congressman John Kline's District 2 competition. Her work will be on display for the next year in his office in Washington, D.C.



Visual arts senior makes the program at the Guthrie

Hali Fisher, visual arts senior, was the winner of the Shakespeare Art Contest at the Guthrie Theater. Her work appeared on the Guthrie program for "Hamlet." Perpich was well represented with a host of students, staff, family and friends on Sunday, April 27, since the winner received 50 free tickets to see "Hamlet." Congratulations, Hali!

Alumna gets prestigious Smithsonian internship in D.C.

Molly Gamble ('12, visual) has won a summer internship at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. She will be a junior at Maryland Institute College of Art in the fall. Congrats, Molly!



Perpich literary program makes the scene at Twin Cities Teen Lit Con

Perpich's lit program had the chance to hear authors and experience literary fun at the Twin Cities' first ever Teen Lit Con May 17 at Henry Sibley High School in Mendota Heights. Instructor Shannon Hannigan staffed a table at the event to share information about Perpich and its terrific literary arts program. Thanks for representing, Shannon!



Public art and music business classes present joint project on Perpich campus

A Songwriter's Walking Concert and Outdoor Public Art Exhibit on May 15-16 attracted more than 100 people and featured individual songwriters performing their work vocally and instrumentally, the music inspired by various locations throughout the Perpich campus. Visual arts students created works also inspired by location, weather and the outdoors. The walking concert and public art exhibit were presented by students from the songwriting/music business class mentored by music instructor Janika Vandervelde and the public art class taught by visual arts instructor Pat Benincasa. For examples of some of the conceptual work done in the public art class, please visit [Perpich Pinterest](#)

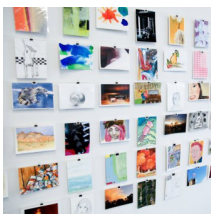


New website! New website! New website!

Can you tell we're excited? Please explore at perpich.mn.gov to see why. The site is at toddler stage right now and is growing and changing daily. While exploring the new site, don't forget to support us on our social media sites. On [Facebook](#) we have more than 2,000 followers but we're aiming for many more! On [Twitter](#) we have more than 800 followers—how about 1,000? Our [Pinterest](#) site is filled with amazing images, great articles about arts and arts education and much more! The [Perpich Library's Pinterest site](#) will keep you up to date on new resources as they become available.

Kaplan contest offers up to \$3,000 in college scholarship contest

The "[Kaplan Why?](#)" contest will offer cash prizes to the three people who, in 100 words or less, best answer the question of what a college education means to them. Ten finalists will be selected, their responses posted on Facebook and the public will decide the winners. There is no entry fee. The contest ends June 10.



Perpich students contribute numerous works for Art 4 Shelter benefit

Many Perpich Arts High School student works were included in Art 4 Shelter, the benefit sale for Simpson Housing Services April 30 at Burnet Gallery in Minneapolis. The Art 4 Shelter benefit is an exhibit and sale of more than 1,000 original artworks on paper by emerging and established artists.

Perpich students whose pieces were included in the benefit sale were: Ashley Wolfe, Astraëa Smart, Ashley Brewer, Elena Hansen, Emma Smith-Coppes, Faiwa (Gretchen) West, Laura Smith, Jolius Nyren, Jae Shin Cross, Isabella Morse, Hannah Shoger, Haley Bennett, Garrett Lind, Kayleigh Hartland, Michael Hansen, Max Hart, Nathan Lindberg, Rebecca Silberfarb, Rosalia Amato Bauer, Satya Varghese Mac, Shannon Clancy and Tori Thibodeaux. Victoria Petelin, media arts senior, volunteered to take photographs of the event.

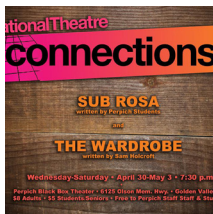


Sculpture class built bridges and 2D into 3D projects

Sculpture students learned about principles of building, materials, tools and gravity with their first class project, which was to build a bridge utilizing struts, guy wires, trusses, webbing, spans, top and bottom chords and horizontal/vertical/diagonal cross members. One of the instructions was to place it in “an imaginary/outrageous context.” Some of the juniors in the class have decided to exhibit their bridges in the curriculum show that opens in the visual arts gallery at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 29.

Others will be displaying results of another sculpture class project, 2D into 3D, where they took digital photos and used them as 3D catalysts for a sculpture. Each student had to incorporate his or her photo and construct a 3D reality from it, in it or on it. As instructor Pat Benincasa explained, “The aim of the project is to unlock mindsets and assumptions about 2D and 3D works. For example, one of the key components is a photo but not within its accepted 2D understanding as something to be looked at in and of itself and/or mounted on a wall.”

See examples of both projects on [Facebook](#)



Final exhibits and performances were winners

Theater students gave their 2014 contemporary performance in a combination program that included “Sub Rosa,” a series of short scenes written by Perpich theater students, and “The Wardrobe,” a series of short scenes treating British history from 1485 to the present, written by Sam Holcroft and commissioned by the National Theatre of London. The scenes all featured brief encounters between young people in moments of crisis.

The final dance program for the school year featured amazing solos and small groups, blazing student choreography, contributions from students in literary arts, music and visual arts, and as a finale, an excerpt from “POP!” by visiting dancer and choreographer Mathew Janczewski, performed by the dance seniors. It was the first time Perpich dancers have been given the responsibility to perform an excerpt from a professional work.

The final artscience presentation drew a record crowd in the Performance Hall with students, instructors, parents and mentors on hand to hear how a year’s worth of work turned out. The senior media arts photography exhibition’s reception brought in all of our photography lovers and the junior and senior literary arts students ended the year with a bang at the Southern Theater in downtown Minneapolis.

Amazing work, everyone! What a great year at Perpich!



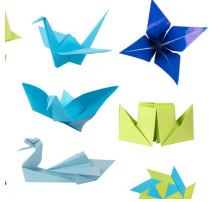
Media students dominate at .EDU Film Festival

Eight media arts students had one or more video works accepted to the 7th Annual .EDU Film Festival on May 16 at the Showplace ICON Theater, West End, St. Louis Park. Congratulations to Kimberly Atchley, Haley Bennett, Ashley Brewer, Jae Shin Cross, Sophia Deutsch, Jonah Schuetz-Reid, Satya Varghese Mac and Delaney Sharratt who had their work screened.

May sprouts AP exams all over Perpich

AP exams dominated the schedules of many Perpich students this month. Students in our AP classes were taking exams but even students who were not in AP classes could sign up to take exams they felt prepared for because of other classes. If you've ever wanted to know more about how [AP classes and exams](#) work and what they mean for students, go to the link.

Perpich also offers courses through [College in the Schools \(CIS\)](#), which provide students with college credits without leaving campus. Prospective parents tell us the availability of AP and CIS at Perpich is often a deciding factor in agreeing to send their students here for school. Find out how these programs work at Perpich at perpich.mn.gov.



Media arts teacher shares skill in origami and visual arts teacher wields her iPad

Media arts instructor Aki Shibata taught an origami class May 8 as part of a program at the Minneapolis Arts Institute (MIA), "The Hero's Sacred Journey," co-sponsored by The Loft Literary Center. The event tied in with MIA's "Sacred" exhibition. Activities throughout the event included opportunities to write, exchange, and rebuild individual versions of the Hero's Journey.

Sandy Woodhull, visual arts instructor, led a class of other arts teachers May 3 on the use of iPads in the classroom. She said the other teachers spoke glowingly of Perpich, its programs and the quality of our students' art. Thanks for sharing the praise, Sandy!



Visit Dunn Brothers on Third Avenue downtown before June!

See an exhibit by senior media arts students at the Dunn Brothers Coffee Shop near the Third Avenue-Central Avenue bridge (201 Third Ave. S., not the one in the Warehouse District!). Before it comes down, the shop is having a reception for the students at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 27. Please join them!

You can also see senior media student work in the Basta Gallery on campus until May 28. On May 29, the Basta Gallery will become the site of the media arts juniors' summer exhibition, which opens at 5:30 p.m.

Perpich musical performances on campus and off on May 29

On Thursday, May 29, 5 - 6:30 p.m., a group of Perpich music students will open the Loring Greenway Association music series downtown, entitled "[Music on the Greenway](#)." This series, situated on a small stage outside the Greenway doors of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1300 Nicollet Mall, runs all summer on Thursday afternoons, highlighting youth music in the Twin Cities.

Music students also will be performing their final concerts that day at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Hall and on Friday, May 30, same time and location.



Teaching and resident life intern spends final weeks of school at Perpich

Heather Linger is currently volunteering and working as a teaching and resident life intern at Perpich. She is a freshman studying visual arts at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Her favorite art mediums are watercolor, ink pen and colored pencil. Fostering an educational experience that includes real world engagement and practical work, Antioch encourages students to participate in 10-12 week co-op opportunities (every two quarters), throughout the nation as well as overseas. Heather chose to spend her co-op period here at Perpich and we're all happy to have her!

Heather is interested in pursuing a career in arts education/management. She was drawn to Perpich, she says, because it is a school highly regarded for its quality education and appreciation for the arts. While at Perpich, she has enjoyed doing research for some of the English teachers, including Sun Yung Shin and Tom Carlson. More recently, she has observed and assisted in Sandy Woodhull's advanced drawing and jewelry-making classes. She says, "Thanks to all for welcoming me to this awesome learning and creating environment!"



¡Pura vida! Salut!

Twelve Perpich students travelled with their Spanish and French classes during spring break, living with host families and attending high school, experiencing the culture and practicing their language skills. Spanish students enjoyed rain forests and great food, while the French students explored Paris. Next year's trips are being planned for spring break, March 25 - April 4, 2015. Please contact teachers [Elaine Drivas](#) (Spanish) or [Trina Keller](#) (French) for more information.



Language and Friendship, the student travel company that does Perpich's land arrangements, is also looking for families to host students from Spain/ France this summer for three weeks. Students hosting will receive a \$200 discount on the Perpich trip next spring. Please visit [Language and Friendship's](#) website for details regarding the opportunity to host.

Reaching All Learners workshop series continues in July

The third workshop in a series for teachers and teaching artists interested in working with students with special needs will be July 11. The second workshop in the series, "Quality Artist Residencies for Students with Special Education Needs," was May 15. Each workshop is \$15. For more information about the series, please contact [Craig Dunn](#).



State legislative session ends well

The capital bonding bill passed the House and Senate and was signed by the governor. It included conveyance language transferring Crosswinds Arts and Science School to Perpich, making Perpich's management of the school official. The bill also provides \$2 million to the Perpich Center for facility (asset) improvements. Families, principals, legislators and administrators celebrated the conveyance of the Crosswinds and Harambee schools from the East Metro Integration District board on Wednesday, May 21.

Artsience students tour Smiths-Medical

Artsience students visited Smiths-Medical, a company that designs, manufactures and distributes medical devices. Students talked with mechanical and software engineers and found the engineers' brainstorming process to be very similar to the brainstorming used in artsience to develop ideas. The students were excited to see the processes they use come alive in a "real world" experience. Much of what and how the employees at Smiths-Medical work coincides with many of the same concepts employed in the artsience program.

"There are different steps and stages that you must engage with as a team in order to get your project where it needs to be. This could take days, weeks, months and even years," said Samara Schumacher, artsience senior. "While at Smiths-Medical today, it became really clear to us how much effort is needed to run such a business and develop ideas through to fruition." All the artsience students want to thank Smiths-Medical for letting us come and tour!



Perpich is home to 2014 National Merit Scholar

Olivia Phillips, senior in theater, has been named a National Merit Scholar and will receive a \$2,500 scholarship. The Merit Scholar designees were chosen from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding finalists in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winners are the finalists in each state judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishment, skills and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The number of winners named in each state is proportional to the state's percentage of the nation's graduating high school seniors. A big congratulations to Olivia!

Perpich Foundation announces its scholarship recipients for 2014

JGS Foundation Promising Young Artist Scholarship in media arts - Emma Smith-Coppes, Tony Basta Memorial Scholarship in media arts - Kimberly Atchley, Aaron Hilden Music Scholarship - Victoria Thibodeaux. Congratulations to all three students!

Minnesota Private College Week

Guidance counselor Lisa Quiring encourages students and parents to consider attending [Minnesota Private College Week](#) June 23-27. It provides an introduction to Minnesota's private colleges and an opportunity to get a taste of several of them in a short amount of time. Each college hosts two sessions a day.



Hip-hop artist talks money with Perpich students

Sean “Twinkie Jiggles” McPherson, bass player for Heiruspecs, Dessa and his solo project, Twinkie Jiggles Broken Orchestra, came to Perpich Arts High School in early May to talk about music, being in business for yourself and being smart about money. His opening act was Minnesota State Commerce Commissioner Michael Rothman. The emphasis was on saving, planning, being careful with credit cards and keeping good financial records. McPherson brought his bass and did a brief solo to finish off the presentation.

Perpich hiring a staff member for the new Turnaround Arts initiative

The Turnaround Arts initiative will be hiring an implementation coordinator for the Minnesota program. The deadline to apply is May 30. See details at perpich.mn.gov

Calendar

Dates	
May 26–27	No School
May 29	Junior Visual Exhibition
May 29	Junior Media Arts Summer Exhibition
May 29	Music on the Greenway
May 29–30	Music Concerts
June 6	Graduation

Perpich Arts High School	6125 Olson Memorial Highway	Sue Mackert
Perpich Arts Outreach	Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422	Executive Director
Perpich Arts Library	perpich.mn.gov	763-279-4160

If you have news or events, please email: communications@pcae.k12.mn.us. Follow us on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Pinterest](#)